

Second Public Meeting for Topanga State Park General Plan

July 28, 2010
6:30 PM TO 8:30 PM

The following revised Park Vision and Declaration of Purpose is being proposed for the park's updated General Plan; however, a core of the Declaration is based upon the 1977 general development plan:

Topanga State Park is made up of scenic wildlands within a fragmented and ever-encroaching modern urban setting. Although it is in the middle of the most densely populated area of the State, the Park still manages to maintain a sense of wholeness and integrity with a near-perfect arrangement of rocks, soil, sun, water, plants, and other living organisms. It is a landscape shaped not only by its underlying natural history but also by its lengthy cultural history. Some of the earliest known areas of human habitation in California were established here thousands of years ago. These lands are still revered by the descendants of those earlier people as well as by multitudes of others who have come to appreciate Topanga State Park as a unique and special place.

The purpose of Topanga State Park is to preserve, interpret, and protect a substantial and meaningful portion of its natural and cultural resources, so that the Park can:

- sustain dynamic natural processes,
- retain its unique, rugged, and inherently beautiful character,
- provide a "quick escape" from the hustle and bustle of urban life,
- maintain vital open space qualities and integrity,
- offer its full complement of features, resource values, and outdoor experiences,
- teach awareness, appreciation, and better understanding of the people who lived here before,
- facilitate the discovery and recognition of our relationships with the natural world and with each other,
- inspire us and our children to realize the importance of these landscapes to our well being and the well being of our urban habitat.

Park Information

Address: Topanga State Park
20825 Entrada Road
Topanga, CA 90272
Phone: (310) 455-2465



Park Sector: Topanga Sector
Park District: Angeles District

Average Annual Attendance: 404,302 (1996 to 2008)
2008 School Programs: 1,717 students; 42 schools

Current Acreage: 11,525 acres (8,960 acres within City of LA)
Miles of Trails: 50.8 miles (approximately half are fire roads)
Trailheads & Entrances: 60 (approx.)
Scenic Overlooks: 6 (at least)

Wildlife Species: 425 potentially occurring wildlife species (27 avian, 85 mammal, 46 reptile, 17 amphibian)
Special Status Wildlife: 13 wildlife, 3 fish, and 5 invertebrate species
Plant Species: Approximately 300 plant species (Muns 1983)
Special Status Plants: 20 plant species
Habitat Communities: 6 rare natural communities; the mouth of Topanga Creek is identified as critical habitat for the tidewater goby (USFWS Recovery Unit LA-2)

Archaeological Sites: 52 recorded (29 are Native American; 1.5% of park surveyed)
Historic Resources: 17 historic sites (includes historic buildings and historic archaeological sites)
Paleontology: 4 geologic formations dating from circa 10 million to 100 million years; primarily fossil fish species

Perennial Streams: Topanga, Santa Ynez, and Temescal Creeks
Seasonal Streams: Many – see map on reverse
Watersheds (parts of): 5 (Calwater 2.2, 1999)
Waterfalls: 5 (at least)
Named Rock Features: 4 (at least)
Soils: 11 series (USDA)

Note: Data are for general reference only and do not necessarily reflect definitive or final statistics. Wildlife and special status species counts were based on USGS 7.5-minute quadrangles for Malibu Beach, Topanga, and Canoga Park.